

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Protesters hold placards and shout slogans outside Downing Street as Spain's prime minister Mariano Rajoy visits Britain's prime minister Theresa May in London.

## “Bridge” holiday hotel occupancy up in the Balearics

Palma.—The Turespaña national tourism promotion agency has released figures for hotel and other accommodation occupancy during the holiday “bridge” created by the two national holidays this week - today for the Constitution and Friday for Immaculate Conception.

The overall occupancy is estimated to be 64%. If so, then this will be a significant increase over last year - some 15%. Bookings for hotels are currently running at 56%, with the forecast being that they will end up at 66.4%. The final occupancy in 2016 was 56%. For ski resorts accommodation, a leap of 24% is anticipated in the final occupancy figure - from 41% in 2016 to 65%.

The region with the highest occupancy will be the Canaries. Bookings at present are 83% and

this figure is forecast to increase to 88%, two points higher than last year. In the Balearics the prediction is 53%, which will be a rise of 16%. It might be noted that this 53% is the lowest forecast occupancy of the seventeen regions of Spain. By city, Palma is forecast to have 50% occupancy, which will be up from the 36% last year. Granada and Bilbao top the list with 81%. The Palma occupancy is the lowest forecast for the ten cities identified, which also include Malaga, Seville, Zaragoza, Barcelona, Valencia, Santiago de Compostela and Madrid.

In the case of Barcelona, clearly affected by the Catalonia political situation, the forecast of 52% is down on the final occupancy figure of 65%. It is the only city to show a decrease.



The new MSC superliner, Seaside, docked in Palma yesterday as part of a Mediterranean cruise. The first of MSC's next-generation Seaside class vessels, it is the largest cruise ship ever to be constructed by its builder, Fincantieri of Italy, and features a custom-designed multi-story aqua park built by WhiteWater West of Canada.

## SUPER-LINER